

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Joey C. Yao Reg. No. 63810 on 4/7/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In Claim 55,

55. (Currently Amended) A centralized gaming system, comprising:

a central server system storing a plurality of games of chance, the central server providing the plurality of games to a plurality of remote display terminals linked to the central server; and

at least one of the remote display terminals ~~terminal~~ linked to the central server system, the at least one remote display terminal including a display, a processor, and an accounting meter, [(and)]

wherein in response to any credits on the accounting meter being redeemed and the at least one remote display terminal being idle for a predetermined period of time, the processor ~~display displaying~~ causes the display to display a plurality of game selection indicia corresponding to the plurality of games~~[[;]]~~ provided by the central server, and

wherein in response to one of the games from the central server being selected for play according to the game selection indicia displayed at ~~one of~~ the at least one remote display terminal, the processor executes software for the selected game is

~~executed~~ to randomly select an outcome[[,]] and the outcome is visually represented on the display of the one remote display terminal, the processor causing the display of the one remote display terminal ~~displaying to display~~ the selected game until any credits on the accounting meter have been redeemed and the at least one remote display terminal has been idle for the predetermined period of time.

In Claim 56,

56. (Currently Amended) The gaming system of Claim 55, wherein in response to one of the games being selected for play at the at least one remote display terminal at least some software for the selected game is downloaded from the central server system to the at least one remote display terminal and is selectively executed at the at least one remote display terminal.

In Claim 57,

57. (Currently Amended) The gaming system of Claim 55, wherein in response to one of the games being selected for play at the at least one remote display terminal, at least some software for the selected game is executed at the central server system.

In Claim 71,

71. (Currently Amended) A method of executing a game of chance, comprising: providing a central server system storing a plurality of games of chance and including a play engine providing the plurality of games to a plurality of remote display terminals linked to the central server, at least one of the remote display terminals including a display, a processor, and an accounting meter;

~~providing at least one display terminal remote from and linked to the central server system, the at least one remote display terminal including a display;~~

in response to any credits on the accounting meter of the at least one remote display terminal being redeemed and the at least one remote display terminal being idle for a predetermined period of time, displaying, using the processor, a plurality of game

selection indicia on the display, the plurality of game selection indicia corresponding to the plurality of games provided by the central server;

receiving, according to the game selection indicia at the at least one of the display terminals terminal, a player's selection of one of the games from the central server to be played at the at least one display terminal;

executing, using the processor, software for the selected game to randomly select an outcome;

visually representing the outcome on a display of the at least one of the display terminals terminal; and

displaying, using the processor, the selected game on the display until any credits on the accounting meter of the at least one remote display terminal have been redeemed and the at least one display terminal has been idle for the predetermined period of time.

In Claim 73,

73. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 71, further including downloading at least some software for the selected game to the at least one display terminal, and selectively executing the software for the selected game at the at least one display terminal.

In Claim 93,

93. (Currently Amended) The gaming system of Claim 56, wherein the at least some software executed at the at least one remote display terminal is audiovisual software for visually representing the outcome on the display of the one of the display terminals.

In Claim 95,

95. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 73, wherein the at least some software executed at the at least one display terminal is audiovisual software for visually representing the outcome on the display of the one of the display terminals.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art for the features of the claimed invention are Wiltshire et al. (US Patent 6,409,602; hereinafter Wiltshire), Dickinson et al. (US Patent 6,224,485; hereinafter Dickinson), Dunn (US Patent 6,089,975), Houriet, Jr. et al. (US Patent 5,575,717; hereinafter Houriet).

However, Wiltshire alone or in combination with Dickinson, Dunn and Houriet does not disclose a gaming system and method of operating a game of chance on the gaming system including a central server that stores and provides plural games of chance and a plurality of remote display terminals that have a display, a processor, an accounting meter and that communicate with the central server over a network, **wherein** when credits on the accounting meter are being redeemed and at least one of the plurality of remote display terminals has been idle for a predetermined time period, the processor causes the display to display plural game selection indicia that correspond to the plural games stored on and provided from the central server, **and wherein** when a player selects one of the games from the displayed plural game selection indicia to be played, the processor executes the software of the selected game to randomly select a game outcome that is displayed to the player on one of the plural

remote display terminals and causes the selected game to be displayed until any credits on the accounting meter have been redeemed and the remote display terminal has idle for the predetermined time period. Thus, the claimed invention is not anticipated by nor obvious over the closest prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ARTHUR O. HALL whose telephone number is (571)270-1814. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:00am - 5:00 pm, Alt Fri, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (571) 272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. O. H./
Examiner, Art Unit 3714

/Peter D. Vo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3714